



May 20, 2005

Disaster News

REMAINING DISASTER RECOVERY CENTERS SET TO CLOSE

TRENTON, NJ — The Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the New Jersey Office of Emergency Management (NJOEM) announced today the closing of the two remaining Disaster Recovery Centers (DRCs) in Passaic and Hunterdon counties.

Anyone living in one of the declared counties and adversely affected by the disaster may still register for assistance, check the status of their application or update their information by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362), 1-800 462-7585 (TTY) or register on line at www.fema.gov. Telephone lines are open Mon.-Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. until further notice.

DRC hours of operation are Mon. – Fri. 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Saturdays 8:00 a.m. – Noon.

Closing Wednesday, May 25:

Little Falls Municipal Complex 225 Main Street Little Falls, NJ Stockton Borough Hall 2 South Main Street Stockton Borough, NJ

To date, more than 700 people visited one of five DRCs opened in the affected counties. DRCs provide individuals an opportunity to meet face to face with representatives from state, federal and voluntary agencies to get answers to any recovery questions they may have. Loan officers from the U.S. Small Business Administration are on hand to help individuals fill out loan applications and answer questions. Mitigation personnel can provide applicants with information and advice on how to repair or rebuild a flooded home or structure safely. It is not mandatory to visit a DRC to receive FEMA assistance.

FEMA prepares the nation for all hazards and manages federal response and recovery efforts following any national incident. FEMA also initiates mitigation activities, trains first responders, works with state and local emergency managers, and manages the National Flood Insurance Program and the U.S. Fire Administration. FEMA became part of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security on March 1, 2003.

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